

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to a Final Office Action mailed April 27, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 3-6, 9-12, 15-20 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards (U.S. Patent No. 6,069,957). Moreover, claims 21-24 and 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Richards in view of Mooney (U.S. Patent No. 6,351,813). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

On October 25, 2004, the undersigned attorney conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner. The Examiner is thanked for his time and attention to this matter. The telephone interview focused on the lack of teaching of the limitations set forth in dependent claims 21, 23 and 25. No agreement was made concerning the allowability of the claims, but the Examiner states that there appears to be no teachings of the comparison between authorization codes as set forth in claim 25.

Herein, claims 3-6, 9-11, 15-16, 19-20, 22 and 24-26 have been amended. Claims 21 and 23 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 27 and 28 have been added. Applicant files a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) herewith. Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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